WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Action plan for setting up industries during Tenth Plan

†3092. SHRI ISAM SINGH : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether unemployment can be reduced through public sector industries;

(b) if so, whether Government have formulated any action plan to start such industries under Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the target fixed by Government for providing employment to unemployed youths?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI CHENNAMANENI VIDYASAGAR RAO) : (a) and (b) There is no specific Action Plan to set up industries under public sector enterprises. However, the Government plays an important role as facilitator for promoting investment by providing conducive investment climate.

(c) A target of generating additional employment of the order of 50 million persons has been fixed for the Tenth Plan.

Import of outdated equipments from USA

†3093. SHRI MOTILAL VORA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that outdated declared equipments are being imported from USA to India;

(b) if so, Government's reaction thereto; and

(c) by whom such equipments are being imported and whether these equipments are really useful in India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) to (c) As per the EXIM Policy 2002—2007, Capital Goods older than 10 years are not permitted to be imported without an import license. Applications for the import of such Capital Goods are considered by the Exim Facilitation Committee (EFC) (an Inter-Ministerial Committee consisting of representatives from concerned Ministries and technical authorities) keeping in view the residual life as per

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Chartered Engineer Certificate given by the firm from a reputed firm/international accredition agency alongwith justification/essentiality of imports. Other factors like buy-back arrangements for manufactured products, export performance as well as export potential of the firm etc. are considered in deciding such applications. As such, adequate provisions exist in the EXIM Policy to prevent import of outdated equipment.

Agricultural Export Zones

3094. SHRI R. P. GOENKA : Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have earmarked areas for Agricultural Export Zones for different products;

(b) the investment anticipated by public and private sectors in these zones;

(c) the estimated exports from different zones; and

(d) whether Government propose to extend the scheme to other areas ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI RAJIV PRATAP RUDY) : (a) Yes, Sir. 45 Agri Export Zones (AEZs) for different products are being set up in 19 different States.

(b) Total investment of approximately Rs.1256 crores is envisaged, comprising around Rs. 364 crores from Central Government Agencies, Rs. 197 crores from State Government Agencies and Rs. 694 crores from the private sector.

(c) Based on five years projection for each sanctioned AEZ, the total anticipated value of exports is estimated at around Rs.9700 crores.

(d) Yes, Sir. State Governments' proposals for setting up Agri Export Zones for a product(s) grown in a contiguous area and having export potential, would be considered on merits.

Special zones for promoting export

†3095. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI :
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN' :
SHRI KAPIL SIBAL :

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have set up zones under special names in the country for promoting export:

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